

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 02902 141503Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SYE-00 MCT-01 INR-10 CIAE-00
INRE-00 /029 W

-----013631 141507Z /53

O P 141435Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1513
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PRIORITY
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2902

DEPT FOR A/SY/EX, A/SY/OPS/FO, A/SY/CC/TAG AND EUR/EX:

FRANKFURT FOR RSS; ISTANBUL FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJ: SECURITY SITUATION-ANKARA

REF: A) STATE 95580 B) STATE 095427

1. POST IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT SECURITY OF POST PERSONNEL, ESPECIALLY AMBASSADOR, AND GOT'S ABILITY TO PROTECT US. INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION HERE HAS BEEN DETERIORATING EVEN MORE SINCE BEGINNING OF YEAR. BOMBINGS, ESPECIALLY THOSE PLANTED FOR PERSONAL INJURY, HAVE BEEN ON THE INCREASE . INCIDENTS INVOLVING AMERICANS THIS YEAR ALRADY EXCEED THOS IN CY 77. SPECIFIC THREATS AGAINST AMERICANS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM TURKISH ORGANIZATIONS AND FROM INTERNATIONAL GROUPS.

2. THE FUTURE DOES NOT LOOK GOOD. DEMONSTRATIONS ARE BECOMING MORE FREQUENT AND EXTRA-LEGAL. THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT IS OPPOSED TO IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW, WHICH SOME BELIEVE IS ONLY WAY TO
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PAGE 02 ANKARA 02902 141503Z

CONTAIN ESCALATING VIOLENCE. THE TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE (TNP) ARE FACTION-RIDDEN, UNDERMANNED, UNDERTRAINED, AND UNDER-EQUIPPED. IN FACT, TO COPE WITH THE LARGE DEMONSTRATION (100,000 DEMONSTRATORS EXPECTED) APRIL 15 IN ANKARA AND THE MAY 1 RALLY IN ISTANBUL'S TAKSIM SQUARE, TNP IS CLOSING THEIR CADET SCHOOL, IN ORDER THAT THE CADETS CAN ASSIST SECURITY FORCES.

3. POST REQUESTS A TDY SY DETAIL TO PROVIDE 24-HOUR PROTECTIVE SECURITY FOR THE AMBASSADOR AND DCM. POST HAS ONE FULLY-ARMORED CAR, WITH REPLACEMENT DUE TO ARRIVE THIS MONTH. DCM USES 1976 CHEVROLET SY FOLLOW CAR. MSGS ARE COVERING AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE 24 HOURS THROUGH APRIL 23.

4. IF APPROVED, DETAIL SHOULD BRING OWN RADIOS, SERVICE REVOLVERS AND SUBMACHINEGUNS. POST HAS ENOUGHT 870PS AND THREE H&KS. POST WILL ARRANGE PERMISSION USE RADIOS AND WEAPONS.

5. POST ALSO REQUESTS FUNDING APPROVAL TO HIRE FOUR ADDITIONAL CONTRACT GUARDS TO MAN NEW 24-HOUR POST IN BACK YARD OF AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE; FOUR ADDITIONAL CONTRACT BODYGUARDS TO MAN 24-HOUR INTERIOR POST OF AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE; AND TWO ADDITIONAL CONTRACT GUARDS TO INCREASE 12 HOUR GUARD POST AT DCM'S HOUSE TO 24 HOURS.
SPIERS

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